

DPMO DECISION: DECLASSIFY AND RELEASE IN FULL

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June 21, 1973

① Telephone Conversation between J.E. and Bill Schmidt. *Schmidt (Mr. FIXIT)*

Mr. Schmidt had a newspaper article which he read:

MIAMI NEWS - February 5, 1962

DATELINE WASHINGTON. The Second round of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee hearings on the muscling of military officers could easily turn out to be even more sensational than the first. This phase of the investigation exploring the Pentagon's top information and education program is going to raise a dynamite of questions concerning the fate of American prisoners during the Korean War still unaccounted for. They number 375 carried on the Defense Department roles as missing and presumed to be dead. Senate probers John Stennis and Senator Thurman believe some of these prisoners are alive. They plan to gather long suppressed evidence gathered during the Eisenhower Administration. The 200 prisoners were taken to Russia during the Korean war and may still be alive. Unpublished information came from two widely different sources. (1) Chinese prisoner of war questioned by U.S. Counter-intelligence officials after his capture told of seeing 200 U.S. prisoners taken from a Korean train and put aboard a Soviet train at the border town of NAN CHOU LI. That Korean/Soviet junction point is where the narrow gauge Korean line connects with wider Soviet line. The prisoners were seen crossing the platform that separated the two. The Chinese Communist, who spoke English, said he not only recognized the prisoners as being Americans, but also heard them speak.

The second informant YURI RASTVOROV, a Russian NVD intelligence officer who defected to the West in 1954 from the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo revealed details of a major Soviet spy network in the Far East. This man told U.S. Intelligence officials that other authorities in the Soviet

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DPMO review(s) completed.

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Korea. Armed with this information Committee Members are planning to make an extensive inquiry. They plan to call U.S. officers who questioned the communist informant. They want to know what action, if any, responsible officials of the Eisenhower Administration took to get further *corroborate* information to corroborate the reports and whether our government made any formal protest to the Soviet Union.

a) Mr. and Mrs. Monserrat (from our district) had a son lost in 1952 over the Sea of Japan. The man was never found. It seems he crashed close to ~~zhax~~ Russia and the consensus is he was picked up by the Russians.

b) Mr. John Noble, an American captured after World War II in Dresden was in prison with his father in Russia. The father got out and contacted our government. John Noble was in prison in Russia for 9½ years in Camp #8 in Vorkuta. He was released in 1956. He has gone around the U.S. on his own but no one would listen. Изъятие из Китайской Народной Республики This should be known by the Department of State." Mr. Noble said he talked with a Yugoslav who would swear he saw 10 Americans from a crew of a U.S. Navy privateer air craft which went down in the Baltic Sea in 1950.

Mr. Schmidt said there are prisoners in large numbers at Vourkata, Liavianki and Topra. Also on an "island" they have political prisoners like the Danish Ambassador and the son of the Prime Minister of Hungary. Mr. Schmidt was not sure of the above spellings of names on the towns. He wants J.E.'s help - does not want to contact the C.I.A. and wants this kept quiet until story breaks. J.E. will know in advance.

June 22, 1973

Mr. Schmidt phoned again with more information and requests:

(telephone - 215-662-7645)

④ Mr. Schmidt received a letter today from Mr. Sydney A. Sparks of Georgia with names of certain individuals ~~hexwixshxxwhaxhadxhexxixxi~~ who had been in prison with him. These men had seen and been with Americans.

⑤ Mr. Hans Hoffman - Dusseldorf, West Germany (address unknown)

⑥ Mr. Verner Kuttner (a jew) who lived in Berlin where his mother worked at the "Blue Paint Factory in West Berlin. Both men have information dealing with other Americans in Russia.

Mr. Schmidt wants J.E. to wire the Consulate in West Berlin and Dusseldorf to see if he can locate these men. Mr. Schmidt said that residents of Germany must register with the local police ^{living} their/residence, so perhaps this will not be too difficult.

Also, Mr. Schmidt would like to get the names of any "ex-prisoners" who immigrate to the U.S. He said as Chairman of the Immigration Committee, perhaps you could get this information if it is a question on any application form or for a visa.

Mr. Schmidt then went back to yesterday's conversation and gave the following information. He said in the New York Times Tuesday, July 17, 1956 it states: "there was a note delivered from the U.S. to Moscow about U.S. airmen said to be prisoners in the Soviet Union."

Mr. Schmidt said he traced down the source of the privateer crew mentioned

⑦ before which went down in the Baltic -- John Nobel and William Marchuk, of Collegeville, Pennsylvania (who has since defected to the East and

⑧ went to prison) Mr. Noble and Mr. Marchuk met a Mr. Runis, a Russian soldier, part of the squad who pulled the men out of the U.S. Navy

Privateer plane. The article does not give source.

Out of one or
The New York Times Article said XQuuxer more members of the crew of the
U.S. Air Force B29 came down June 13, 1952 either over the
Sea of Japan or near the Kamchatka area of the Soviet Union. Anx an
officer was observed in October 1953 in the Soviet hospital. This officer
stated that he had been convicted wrongfully under Item 6 of
Article 58 of the Soviet Penal Code. Out of that crew,
✓ Samuel Bush, James A. Skully and he believes Monserrat are in our
District. Our Government says they are missing and presumed dead.
He wants to find out who observed this officer.

The State Department put out a release on this on approximately July 17, 1956.

J.W. - a side note, He sure does ramble on!

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J.C.